

Dear Neighbor,

The 135th General Assembly is well underway in Columbus. This month we received our committee assignments, allowing us to work on improving our state and communities. Work has begun on various bills that will be debated and voted on in committee as well as on the

Recently, Governor DeWine gave his State of the State speech, outlying his priorities for Ohio. I am optimistic about several initiatives that he mentioned that will improve the lives of Ohioans. The governor, however, did not mention how the state plans to prevent gun violence or how we can ensure that all children receive a quality public education with adequate funding, regardless of zip

February is Black History Month! Black history is American history and Black voices, experiences, and people have shaped our state and country. Ohio House Democrats are committed to creating a more perfect union that provides freedom, liberty, and equality to us all. Building a state that supports and welcomes everyone has been a long and difficult process, but I am fighting hard every day to create lasting and impactful changes that uplift Black Ohioans.

Finally, House districts changed between the 134th and 135th General Assemblies. To verify your House district, please use the district map function on the Ohio House website, which can be found at this link.

It is an honor to serve as your State Representative. As always, please do not hesitate to contact my office with any questions, comments, or concerns.

Sincerely,

Tavia Galonski

State Representative Ohio House District 33

Member Bill Spotlight

I recently introduced **House Bill (HB)** 59, legislation to create an eviction defense fund and provide for legal representation for defendants in eviction proceedings.

HB 59 will ensure that socioeconomic status is not a barrier to fighting unlawful evictions, and will lessen the financial burden of an eviction on struggling Ohioans.



I am hosting office hours throughout the 33rd House District to learn about the issues that matter most to you. I hope to see you there!

- Monday, February 27, 2023 at Odom Blvd. Library, 1-3pm
- Monday, March 20, 2023 at Northwest Akron Library, 1-3pm
- Monday, April 3, 2023 at Highland Square Library, 1-3pm

Please check Facebook for the most updated information on in-district events.

East Palestine Train Derailment

On February 3rd, about 20 train cars carrying hazardous materials derailed in East Palestine, Ohio, in Columbiana County. My colleagues and I are closely monitoring this disaster and following the science on what any potential long -term environmental impacts might be for our state.



Federal, state, and local government agencies must continue to provide assistance to support the Ohioans impacted in East Palestine and the surrounding areas.

Air and water testing in both East Palestine and Southern Ohio along the Ohio River show that residents can return to their homes and that the drinking water supply has not been tainted.

I will continue to supply information to my constituents as this situation develops, connecting you to available resources for air and water testing.

As of right now, we do not have reason to suspect that the waterways in District 33 and the rest of Summit County have been impacted by the disaster.

For more information on the situation, please check the following sites for regular updates:

- **United States EPA**
- Ohio EPA
- Norfolk Southern

February isBlack History Month

Happy Black History Month! Ohio House Democrats are in Columbus fighting for equality and justice. It is our mission to ensure that Ohioans of all races, ethnicities, sexualities, gender expressions, religions, classes, and backgrounds are treated with respect and given the tools needed to succeed.

"Black History Month is a time to recognize the extensive historical, academic, and cultural contributions made by members of the Black community, both in Ohio and throughout the country," said Rep. Galonski. "This Black History Month and every month, I will continue to fight for meaningful bills that promote a brighter, more equitable future for all Ohioans.

Black Ohioans are disproportionally affected by inequalities in our healthcare system. As a member of the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus and the Black Maternal Health Caucus, I am committed to creating a state that can better provide for all of its residents. This commitment is not limited to healthcare but extends to ensuring fair access to economic opportunities, housing, safe communities, and transportation. My colleagues and I are fighting to make Ohio a welcoming, safe, and prosperous state for everyone.



